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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,934	02/12/2002	Yoshikatsu Matsuo	F00ED362	3743

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

BRAGDON, REGINALD GLENWOOD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2188

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/072,934

Applicant(s)

MATSUO, YOSHIKATSU

Examiner

Reginald G. Bragdon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on 24 March 2004. These drawings are approved by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 7-12 are objected to because of the following informalities:

As per claim 7, line 27, "for accessing" should be --access--.

All dependent claims are objected to as having the same deficiencies as the claims they depend from.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

--or--

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hubbins et al. (4,698,753).

As per claim 1, Hubbins et al. teaches, with reference to figure 2, host interfaces 2,3 (“watching circuit”), which receive a set of commands from processors A and B (figure 1). Address pointer registers 8,9, with associated address incrementing logic (see column 4, lines 33-36) represent an “address generating circuit”. MUX 18 represents a “selection circuit” for selecting one of the addresses. See column 4, lines 35-40. The arbitration latch 16 represents a “control circuit” for generating the signal to select one of the address registers using the mux 18. See column 4, lines 38-40.

As per claim 2, the host interface logic 2,3 hold data temporarily.

As per claims 3-4, Processor A and the MIPIF represent a “data transmitting device” and processor B is the “external device”.

As per claims 5-6, the WE signal from either host changes state depending upon whether there is a read or write by the particular host.

6. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duranton (US 2002/0156963).

As per claim 1, Duranton teaches, with reference to figure 3, registers 1-4 (“watching circuit”), which receive a set of commands from a master controller MCP in association with a pair of processors, PROC1 and PROC2. See paragraphs 19 and 25. The counters, CNT_W and CNT_R represent “an address generating circuit”, which generate addresses in response to the

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NXT_W and NXT_R signals. See paragraphs 24 and 25. Read controller CTRL_R represents a “selection circuit” and comparator COMP represents a “control circuit” in that based on a comparison of bits from the read and write controllers, the COMP will output a signal to the read controller to disable the conflicting read operation, thereby selecting the write operation from PROC1 to the memory. See paragraph 34.

As per claim 2, by definition, the registers REG1-REG4 hold data values temporarily.

As per claims 3-4, PROC1 and the MCU represent a “data transmitting device” and the PROC2 is the “external device”.

As per claims 5-6, the NXT_W signal (from PROC1) and the NXT_R signal (from PROC2) change logic levels based on whether a write or read is to take place to or from the memory. See paragraph 24.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 7-12 are allowable over the prior art of record, but are objected to as noted above.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 24 March 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to Applicant's arguments concerning the Hubbins et al. reference, these are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Hubbins et al. does not disclose how to control the multiprocessor interface when both of the port A and port B request access to the RAM 1 or that the control circuit controls the enable (“selection”) signal in response to the result of the

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watching circuit. However, claim 1 does not set forth limitations directed as to how the control circuit controls the selection, other than to set forth that the selection signal is generated when the observations of the watching circuit indicates that both of the first and second processing devices request access to the memory. This is taught as shown in figures 2, 7, and 17.

With respect to Applicant's arguments concerning the Duranton reference, these are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Duranton does not disclose "the control of the invention that even if the first processing request comes in first, it is possible to perform the process based on the second processing request signal in the condition that the memory is enable during the substantially extended period". However, this language is not reflected as limitations of independent claim 1. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

10. Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

All "OFFICIAL" patent application related correspondence transmitted by FAX must be directed to the central FAX number at (703) 872-9306:

"INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" FAX communications may be sent to the Examiner at (703) 746-5693, only after approval by the Examiner.

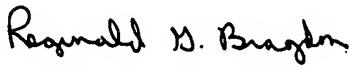
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121
Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (receptionist).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reginald G. Bragdon whose telephone number is (703) 305-3823. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM and every other Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

The examiner's supervisor, Mano Padmanabhan, can be reached at (703) 306-2903.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

RGB
April 26, 2004


Reginald G. Bragdon
Primary Patent Examiner
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